

## Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 NEA-10 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 AEC-11 IO-14 OIC-04

OMB-01 AECE-00 DRC-01 /164 W  
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P R 121337Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1187

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T VIENNA 0283

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJ: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: DATA REQUIREMENT

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

BEGIN SUMMARY: IN AN INFORMAL DISCUSSION JANUARY 9  
UK REP SUGGESTED THAT USE OF SELECTED DATA ON INCREASES  
IN SOVIET FORCES IN NGA WOULD BE AN EFFECTIVE REFUTTAL  
TO SOVIET ARGUMENT THAT HISTORICALLY ACHIEVED CORRELATION  
OF FORCES SHOULD BE MAINTAINED IN MBFR. SINCE FRG,  
BELGIUM, NETHERLANDS AND CANADIAN REPS SUPPORTED THE  
IDEA, US AND UK REPS AGREED TO ASK THEIR CAPITALS FOR  
SUCH INFORMATION IN USE IN PLENARY STATEMENTS. (SEE  
ALSO DISCUSSION ON THIS SUBJECT IN OUR REPORT OF  
JANUARY 10 AD HOC GROUP MEETING.) ACTION REQUESTED:

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THAT WASHINGTON AGENCIES MAKE AVAILABLE DATA REQUESTED

IN PARAGRAPH 3 AND 4 BELOW BY JANUARY 25. END SUMMARY

1. DURING INFORMAL DISCUSSION BY UK, FRG, BELGIAN, NETHERLANDS, CANADIAN AND US REPS JANUARY 9, UK REP (ROSE) AGAIN RAISED QUESTION OF USE OF DATA IN FORTHCOMING ALLIED PLENARY PRESENTATIONS (SEE PARA 3, VIENNA 0054). UK REP SAID HE WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT AT THIS TIME FAVOR AN EFFORT TO GAIN ACROSS THE BOARD EASTERN AGREEMENT TO TOTALS OF ALLIED AND EASTERN GROUND FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE. HE THOUGHT ALLIED INTELLIGENCE HOLDINGS HAD TOO MANY WEAKNESSES TO SUBJECT THEM TO THE STRAIN OF ADVANCING DETAILED UNIT-BY-UNIT FIGURES IN ORDER TO JUSTIFY CUMULATIVE TOTAL DESIGNED TO ELICIT EASTERN AGREEMENT. HE DID THINK IT WOULD BE MOST USEFUL AND EFFECTIVE IF ALLIES COULD PRESENT SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON CERTAIN SELECTED SOVIET UNITS DEMONSTRATING IN PARTICULAR THAT THEY HAD INCREASED IN SIZE IN THE PERIOD SINCE THE NATO REYKJAVIK DECLARATION OF JUNE 1968. SUCH A PRESENTATION SHOWING CONTINUING CHANGES IN SOVIET POSTURE IN RECENT YEARS WOULD BE AN EFFECTIVE REBUTTAL TO THE SOVIET ARGUMENT THAT THE HISTORICALLY ACHIEVED CORRELATION OF FORCES SHOULD BE FROZEN BY MBFR, AND WOULD DOCUMENT ALLIED VIEWS ON DISPARITIES.

2. ROSE BELIEVED THREE OR FOUR FAIRLY PRECISE FIGURES ON INDIVIDUAL SOVIET UNITS IN EAST GERMANY WOULD SERVE AS CREDENTIALS FOR THE AUTHENTICITY OF OVERALL ALLIED DATA HOLDINGS AND GIVE GREATER WEIGHT TO THE ALLIED POINT THAT THE EXISTING RELATIONSHIP OF FORCES SHOULD NOT BE USED AS A BASIS FOR FORCE REDUCTION AS RECOMMENDED BY EAST, SINCE ALLIES WOULD DEMONSTRATE SOVIETS HAD BEEN INCREASING THEIR ALREADY CONSIDERABLE SUPERIORITY OVER PAST FIVE YEARS. ALL OTHER REPS AGREED WITH UK VIEWS AND REQUESTED UK AND US REPS TO ATTEMPT TO LOCATE AND SECURE RELEASE OF APPROPRIATE INFORMATION.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: REQUEST DATA ON THREE TO FIVE SPECIFIC SOVIET DIVISIONS OR LARGE UNITS IN EAST GERMANY WHERE DATA HOLDINGS OVER THE YEARS ARE SOLID ENOUGH TO IMPRESS PACT. ROSE HAS IN MIND MANPOWER, BUT PERHAPS  
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HEAVY EQUIPMENT COUNT WOULD BE MORE RELIABLE BASIS. IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE INCREASES IN STRENGTH, FIGURES MIGHT INCLUDE STRENGTHS IN SUCH CATEGORIES AS TANKS, ARTILLERY, FROGS, TRUCKS (A) AS OF FIRST HALF OF 1968 (OR OF A LATER BASE YEAR, IF NECESSARY) AND (B) AT PRESENT. UNITS SHOULD BE IDENTIFIED AT LEAST BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION AND PREFERABLY BY NUMBERS. WE WOULD HOPE THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO SELECT UNITS

IN SUCH A WAY AS TO AVOID COMPROMISE OF SOURCES OR METHODS (E.G. EXCLUDING ONES IN BERLIN CONTROL ZONE). INFORMATION SHOULD BE AVAILABLE BY JANUARY 25.

4. IN VIEW OF DISCUSSION IN AD HOC GROUP JANUARY 10, WE ALSO NEED BY SAME DATE BEST US ESTIMATES OF TOTAL GROUND MANPOWER AND TANKS FOR NATO AND WARSAW PACT FORCES IN NGA AS OF FIRST HALF OF 1968 WITH CALCULATION FOLLOWING SAME CRITERIA AS THOSE APPLIED TO GET PRESENTLY AGREED STRENGTHS (777,000/6,000 AND 925,000/15,500). ALSO NEED SIMILAR TOTALS FOR SOVIET AND US GROUND MANPOWER AND TANKS AGREED IN NGA AS OF FIRST HALF OF 1968. HUMES

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TROOP DEPLOYMENT, BALANCED FORCE REDUCTIONS, NEGOTIATIONS, MILITARY VEHICLES, TANKS (COMBAT VEHICLES)  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19 MAR 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <19 MAR 2002 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <11 APR 2002 by garlanwa>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: DATA REQUIREMENT MBFR NEGOTIATIONS  
**TAGS:** PARM, UR, NATO, MBFR  
**To:** STATE SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005